

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 09901 112227Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 SSO-00 /015 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1084

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJ: CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO (DAVID
CHRISTOPHER ALSOP)

REF: STATE A. 194199 B. 240905

1. ALSOP REPORTS MEDICAL CONDITION NOW GOOD, BUT WOULD
LIKE TO SEE "GOOD DENTIST". PROBLEM OF DENTAL CARE IS
CHRONIC ONE IN PRISONS, AS MOST PRISONERS DO NOT HAVE FUNDS
TO PAY FOR PRIVATE DENTISTS OR FOR COMPLICATED DENTAL WORK
BY PRISON PRACTITIONER. CONOFF HAS DISCUSSED PRISONER
COMPLAINTS OF LACK OF ADEQUATE DENTAL EQUIPMENT AT
SANTA MARTA WITH DIRECTOR, AND HE HAS INFORMED CONOFF THAT
HE HAS PETITIONED PREVENCION SOCIAL FOR MONEY FOR EITHER
NEW EQUIPMENT OR FOR RPAIRS TO EXISTING EQUIPMENT.
LOS REYES WOMEN'S PRISON RECENTLY RECEIVED NEW DENTAL EQUIPMENT.
MANY PRISONERS BELIEVE MONTHLY VITAMIN DONATIONS OBTAINED
BY EMBASSY WILL HELP ALLEVIATE DENTAL PROBLEMS.

2. ALSOP SAYS HE DECIDED NOT TO PROCEED WITH APPEAL BECAUSE
OSTOS WANTED MORE MONEY TO CONTINUE CASE. EMBASSY HAS
EXAMINED ALSOP'S CONTRACT WITH OSTOS AND REVIEWED
SERVICES ACTUALLY PERFORMED BY ATTORNEY, AND IS OF
OPINION ALSOP HAS NO GROUNDS FOR CRIMINAL ACTION
AND PROBABLY NONE FOR CIVIL SUIT. ALSOP'S ESCAPE,
OF COURSE, MADE IT PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT FOR ANY
ATTORNEY TO HANDLE CASE EFFICIENTLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY.
ALSOP HIMSELF IS OF OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE USELESS
ATTEMPT RECOVER MONEY FROM OSTOS AND, AT ANY RATE, COULD
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 09901 112227Z

NOT AFFORD HIRE ANOTHER ATTORNEY TO PURSUE CASE. HE

ALSO BELIEVES ALL MEXICAN ATTORNEYS ARE UNRELIABLE.

3. ALSOP HAS COMMISSIONED JOB DOING LEATHERCRAFT, AND
CONOFF HAS ASSISTED HIM IN OBTAINING MATERIALS.
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